

Message Text

SECRET

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46

ACTION SR-02

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-25 NEA-10 IO-15 ISO-00 ORM-03 AID-20

SCA-01 HEW-08 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15

USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01 SAJ-01 DRC-01 (ISO) W

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P 021420Z OCT 73

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1905

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY BONN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY LONDON PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY OSLO PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY ROME PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VALLETTA PRIORITY

AMEMBASSY VIENNA PRIORITY

S E C R E T GENEVA 5229

DEPT PLEASE PASS USINT CAIRO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, PINS, PFOR, AU, IS

SUBJECT: AUSTRIAN DECISION TO CASE FACILITATIVE ASSISTANCE TO JEWISH
REFUGEE MIGRANTS EX-USSR

REF: STATE 194596

1. IT OCCURS TO MISSION THAT IN EVENT GOA ADAMANT IN THEIR
DECISION TO CLOSE DOWN SCHONAU TRANSIT CENTER AND LIMIT
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TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS TO INDIVIDUAL CASES, THE INTERGOVERN-

MENTAL COMMITTEE FOR EUROPEAN MIGRATION (ICEM)
COULD POSSIBLY ASSIST IN PROVIDING WORKABLE ALTERNATIVE. FYI
ICEM ALREADY PARTICIPATES TO LIMITED EXTENT IN EXISTING TRANSIT
MOVEMENTS TO ISRAEL AND ICEM ALSO PROVIDES UMBRELLA FOR
INTERNATIONAL FINANCING THESE MOVEMENTS.

2. ON OTHER HAND, IF GOA AS RESULT INTERNATIONAL PRESSURES OR
WHATEVER REASON DESIRES TO BACK AWAY FROM CAPITULATION
DECISION TOWARD PRESERVATION OF FACILITIES PREVIOUSLY OFFERED
REFUGEE MIGRANTS, ICEM, WHICH IS TECHNICAL, NON-POLITICAL
ORGANIZATION AND ONE OF WHICH BOTH GOA AND GOI ARE MEMBERS,
WOULD STILL APPEAR TO OFFER SUITABLE VEHICLE FOR MAINTAINING
TRANSIT ARRANGEMENTS IN AUSTRIA AND AT SAME TIME OFFER GOA
POSSIBLE ESCAPE FROM THEIR PRESENT EMBARRASSING SITUATION.
THE MATTER OF SECURITY WOULD OF COURSE PRESENT A PROBLEM BUT
AGAIN IT MIGHT BE EASIER FOR GOA TO FURNISH SUCH SERVICES AT
REQUEST OF ICEM. ANY EVENT, EVEN IF SCHONAU CENTER CLOSED
SOME FACILITIES WILL HAVE TO BE MAINTAINED IN AUSTRIA TO COPE
WITH INDIVIDUAL CASES.

3. CONCEIVABLY ICEM COULD ARRANGE MOVEMENT OF JEWISH REFUGEE
MIGRANTS EX-USSR BY DIRECT CHARTER FLIGHTS FROM MOSCOW TO LOD.
IF SOVIETS REFUSED ADMITTANCE OF ICEM PERSONNEL TO SUPERVISE
SUCH OPERATIONS, ICEM MIGHT UTILIZE SERVICES OF PRIVATE TRAVEL
AGENCY FOR BOOKINGS EX-MOSCOW WHICH IS METHOD ALREADY EMPLOYED
BY ICEM AS MEANS OF ARRANGING MOVEMENTS TO COUNTRIES OTHER
THAN ISRAEL, E.G. THIRD-COUNTRY CASES EX-USSR.

4. IF EFFORTS TOWARD CONTINUATION TRANSIT OPERATION AUSTRIA OR
DIRECT MOVEMENTS EX-USSR BOTH FAIL, APPEARS ONLY REMAINING
ALTERNATIVE WOULD BE ORGANIZED MOVEMENTS VIA SOME OTHER
TRANSIT COUNTRY, E.G. THE NETHERLANDS. IN THIS EVENT ICEM AGAIN
WOULD PROVIDE USEFUL VEHICLE FOR FACILITATING OPERATION.

5. MISSION APPRECIATES THAT THIS PROBLEM IS PRINCIPALLY ONE FOR
GOI TO RESOLVE, HOWEVER, VIEW USG'S HEAVY FINANCIAL INVOLVEMENT
THROUGH USRP IN CARE AND MAINTENANCE AND TRANSPORTATION ASPECTS
OF SOVIET REFUGEE MIGRANT PROGRAM, ABOVE POINTS OFFERED FOR
CONSIDERATION BY DEPARTMENT AND INTERESTED ADDRESSEE POSTS.

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NOTE BY OC/T: NOT PASSED CAIRO

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
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Disposition Action: RELEASED
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Disposition Authority: smithrj
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30 JUN 2005

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